



Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center

A MINISTRY OF THE NORTHEAST AMERICAN DIOCESE OF
THE MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH

YEAR IN REVIEW 2019



ADMINISTRATION

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His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos
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Reverend Father Mathew Thomas
Reverend Father Babu K. Mathew
Philip George
Sajan Mathew
Saji M. Pothan
Santosh Mathai

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Joseph Abraham
George Thumpayil

Director of Development

Reverend Father M. K. Kuriakose

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Das Kannamkuzhiyil
George Varghese
Jaison Thomas
James Samuel
Kuriakose Tharian
Madhu Philip

Advisory Board (continued)

Paul Karukappillil
Philipose Philip
Shaji Varghese
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Jamie Joshua
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Development Committee

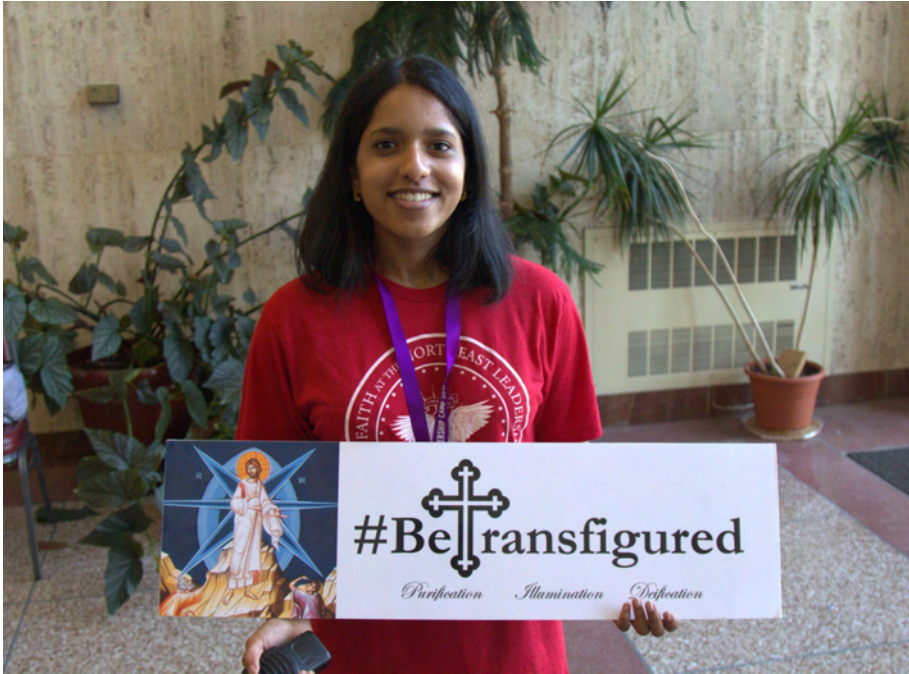
Abraham Joshua
Abraham Pothan
Babu Parackal Varghese
Eby Kuriakose
Elsykutty Mathew
George Geevarghese
Dr. Gregory Varghese
Joby John
K. G. Oommen
Mathew Varghese
Paul John
Philip Varghese
Punnose Punnen
Rosemary Yohannan
Thomas Varghese

"Things aren't the greatest at home...I am just happy to have a safe place during the summer to pray, and experience peace for a few days..." - Guest





"Praying the Shehimo together in the chapel was unlike anything I have ever experienced...after camp, I didn't want to leave" - Guest





By the Grace of God, 2019 was a year filled with over 25 programs, of which ten belonged to the Northeast American Diocese. An estimated number of over 1,500 people from all walks of life have entered to use our sacred space for prayer, reflection, meditation, and rejuvenation.

During this year, a series of capital improvements were made which are all part of our long term plan. Such improvements began with outdoor landscaping, to planting an orchard garden. Renovation was done in the administrative wing, and select guestrooms to ensure a more comfortable stay for our guests.

LOOKING AHEAD

Some of the major plans for the Retreat Center include structural enhancements, and ministerial initiatives.

Such initiatives include a liturgical music school, a catechetical school to teach about the Orthodox Christian faith, and a Diaconate Training Program.

It is our hope to restore the diaconate in the Malankara Church in North America.

A cherished dream of His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos, Metropolitan is the revival of a true monastic movement, based from the Retreat Center. It is the prayer of the Church as a whole, a group of men will consecrate their lives to transform the Diocese and the Church, through unceasing prayer from this sacred place.

This monastic brotherhood will be able to provide spiritual counsel to our clergy and faithful alike for generations to come.

ANNUAL PROGRAMS

Here is a list of programs scheduled for 2021:

College Summit - January 2021

Lenten Retreat - March 2021

Holy Week Retreat - April 2021

Catechetical School - April 2021

MMVS Retreat - May 2021

Liturgical Music Seminar - June 2021

Martura - July 2021

Lahmo - July 2021

Hadootho - July 2021

Agni Camp - August 2021

Talmeedo - August 2021

Daughters of the King - Summer 2021

Summer Institute - Summer 2021

Acolytes Retreat - Fall 2021

How can I support HTRC?

- Monthly giving, or "recurring giving."
- Explore matching donations from your employer.
- Naming Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center as a beneficiary in your will or estate plan.
- Listing HTRC as a suggested charity in memory of a deceased loved one.
- Becoming a Friend of Transfiguration, our annual donor program.



DONORS

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS WHO BELIEVE DEEPLY IN OUR MISSION AND INVEST IN OUR SACRED WORK. YOUR INVESTMENT ENSURES WE MAKE AN IMPACT ON OUR YOUTH, AND SECURE A FUTURE FOR OUR CHURCH.

\$50,000+

His Grace Zachariah Mar Nicholovos

\$25,000+

St. Thomas Indian Orthodox Church,
Philadelphia, PA
St. Stephen Orthodox Church, Midland Park, NJ
James R. George

\$20,000+

Dentonic, Inc.

\$10,000+

St. Thomas Orthodox Church, Yonkers, NY
St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Queens, NY
St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Yonkers, NY
Abraham Pothen
Aleyamma John
Fr. Paulose Peter
Fr. Roy P George
Mathew Varghese
SS Commodities & Services Inc. (Thomas Koshy)

\$5,000+

Wilson T. Abraham
Eby Kuriakose
Fr. Thomas Mathew
Fr. Vijay A Thomas
Geevarghese Living Trust
Matthew Samuel
Very Rev. Perumkunnil Samuel
Rajan George
Very Rev. K. M. Mathai
Saji Pothen
St. Baslios Orthodox Church,
Ridgewood, NY
Vinu T. Kurian

\$2,000+

St. John's Orthodox Church, Drexel Hill, PA
St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Bronx, NY
St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Silver Springs, MD
St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Huntingdon Valley, PA
Abraham M Kaduvettoor
Amy Mathew
Benny Thomas
Bijo K Thomas
Cyril Varghese
Elias Joseph
Geevarghese K. John
Jacob George
Jyothis V. Jacob
Kochu Geevarghese
Lizy Varghese
Mary Thomaskutty
Fr. Varghese M. Daniel
St. George Orthodox Church, Fairless Hills, PA
St. Gregorios Orthodox Church, Bensalem PA
Varghese Cherian
Varghese George
Varghese Kunnath
Varghese P Yohannan

BECOME A FRIEND OF TRANSFIGURATION CENTER

Please consider becoming a benefactor through offering an annual sacrificial gift of \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, or whatever you are able this year to help our Church in North America through this ministry.



Making Strides for the Future of our Church



During this past year, we were able to conduct more than twenty internal and external programs at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center. This generated a revenue of \$93,2282.

By God's grace and the support of the clergy and faithful of the Northeast American Diocese, we succeeded in receiving \$572,219 in generous donations, and \$474,000 in loans. We were also able to pay off \$540,000 in loans.

Adding to the enthusiasm and excitement of Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center, were the discussions with the Catholicos of the East - His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Mar Thoma Paulose II.

During His Holiness' Apostolic Visit to our Diocese in July 2019, our Diocesan Metropolitan, Diocesan Council, and Managing Committee met jointly with His Holiness at the Diocesan Chancery. His Holiness spoke of the importance of Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center, as a place of not only spiritual respite, but a place to renew and strengthen the mission of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church in North America. Reverend Father Dr. M. O. John, Priest Trustee of the Malankara Church, also added his delightful and encouraging comments.

On the basis of such fruitful discussions, His Holiness was requested to consider Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center as an 'International Orthodox Center' of our Church, and develop it as a center for the Oriental Orthodox Church as a whole. His Holiness was joyfully receptive to the notion, and agreed to move forward with this suggestion through the appropriate committees of the greater Church.

Capital Improvements



LANDSCAPING ENHANCEMENT

Some humble, and elegant landscaping work has been done around the center to make it all the more welcoming.



Capital Improvements



CATHOLICOI MEMORIAL

A room has been set apart in memory of the Catholicos of the Church. We are in the process of installing displays under each Catholicos, which will show case the sacred vestments, and other items used by each Holy Father. This humble place will help visitors to learn about the struggle and sacrifices made by these Fathers for the sake of the Malankara Church.



A bench will be installed in the center of the room for well wishers to come pray, and spend time before the sacred vestments and other items used by these Holy Fathers. We hope to include other artifacts unique to the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, in this area.

Capital Improvements



MEETING ROOM

Brand new wooden floors were placed in this large room to make it more welcoming for meetings, and seminars. Paintings of Metropolitans Dr. Thomas Mar Makarios and Mathews Mar Barnabas have been commissioned to be hung in this room.



LOUNGE/MEETING AREA

This meeting room has been transformed with fresh paint, new carpeting, and modern furniture. It has become a favorite place for our MGOCSM members to gather.

Capital Improvements



KITCHENETTE

This kitchenette was refurbished and updated in the administrative wing of the center. It is complete with a new refrigerator, microwave, and functioning sink.



ORCHARD GARDEN

Orchards were planted in memory of Gregory Rajan, a member of Saint Gregorios Orthodox Church, Floral Park, New York.

Marth Mariam Vanitha Samajam Retreat

NORTHEAST AMERICAN DIOCESE

MAY 3 TO 5, 2019



Talmeedo Men's Camp

NORTHEAST AMERICAN DIOCESE

JUNE 16 TO 22, 2019



Hadsootho

MGOCSM OF PHILADELPHIA
JULY 3 TO 6, 2019



MGBCSM Leadership Camp

MGOC SM OF THE NORTHEAST AMERICAN DIOCESE
JULY 24 TO 27, 2019



Lahmo

MGOCSM OF NEW JERSEY/STATEN ISLAND
AUGUST 2 TO 4, 2019



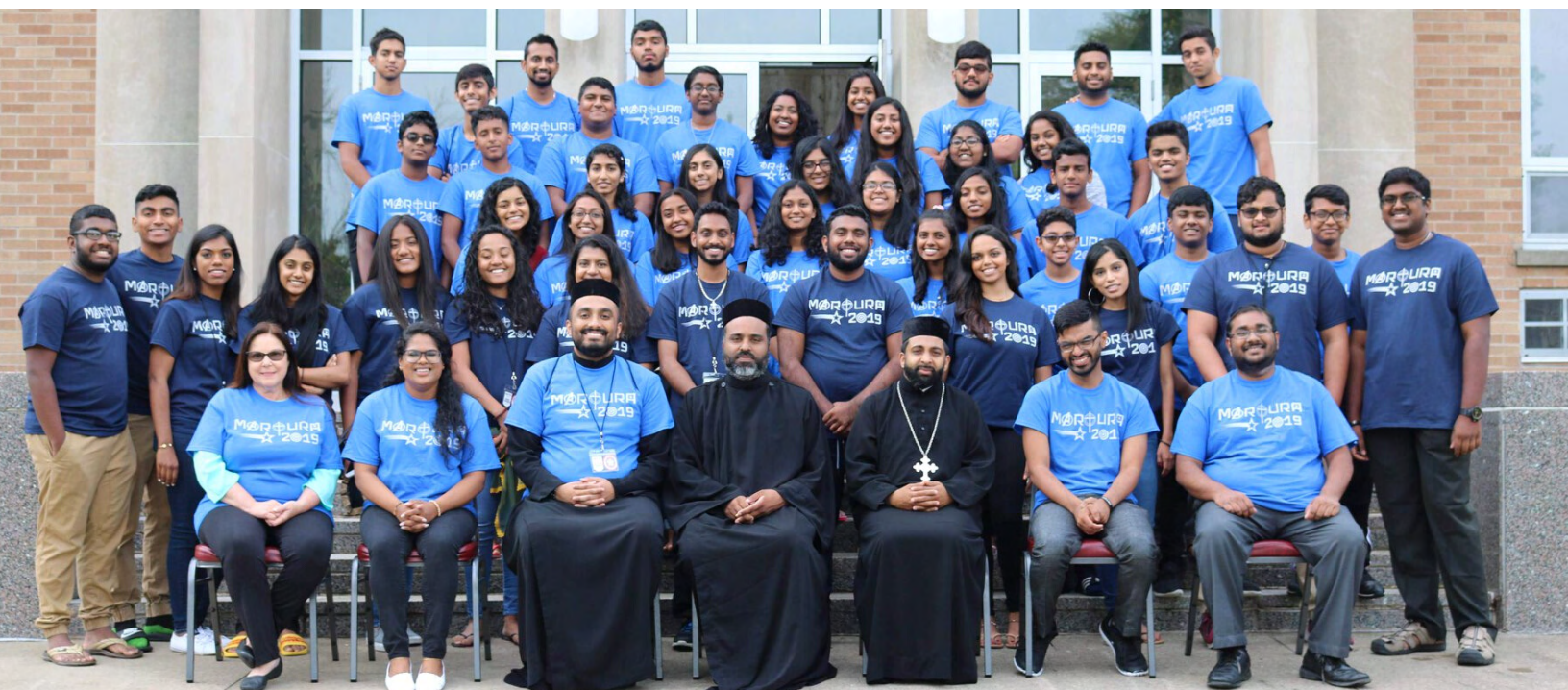
Agni

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP - NORTHEAST AMERICAN DIOCESE
AUGUST 8 TO 10, 2019



Martura

MGOCSM OF BROOKLYN/QUEENS/LONG ISLAND
AUGUST 14 - 17, 2019



Daughters of the King

GROW MINISTRIES OF THE NORTHEAST AMERICAN DIOCESE
AUGUST 23 - 25, 2019



Clergy Conference

SEPTEMBER 26 - 27, 2019





HOW CAN **YOU** SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY?

We first must recognize that this is not a project, but rather a ministry, which belongs to God. This vision of having such a center was inspired by the daily activities happening within our Diocese. After much prayerful thought and setting out what we are in need of God revealed this beautiful center. You can support this ministry by praying whole heartedly for it, through which God will move you to offer your valuable time, and your gracious financial support.

BECOME A FRIEND OF TRANSFIGURATION CENTER

Please consider becoming a benefactor through offering an annual sacrificial gift of \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, or whatever you are able this year to help our Church in North America through this ministry.

HOW AND WHY?

"This amazing retreat center amidst breathtaking scenery will definitely be a place where generations of children, students, young adults, and adults will draw near to our Lord. Thank You for your vision and support of this ministry initiative!"

**-Reverend Father Mat
Alexander**

WHY SHOULD **YOU** GIVE TO THIS MINISTRY?

God has called upon us, and given us the responsibility to support His Bride, the Church, and Her ministries. We are called to ensure that our Church and its ministries are sustained for generations to come. When we give back to Him "gifts from His own gifts", with a generous heart, we will be transformed by our offering, and in turn He will do great work with it and bless us through it.

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center

A ministry for the present, and future generations of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church in North America



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FOLLOW US ON
Instagram

Fill out the information below to learn how you can support this ministry

Please print clearly

FULL NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

PARISH NAME

BIRTHDAY/WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

I would like to :

- ☐ Know more about different events at HTRC
- ☐ Learn how I can volunteer at HTRC
- ☐ Support this ministry with a monthly gift of:

Circle One

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other: \$ _____

Please make check payable to Northeast American Diocese with "Retreat Center"
in memo line, and mail it to Diocesan Chancery, 2158 Route 106, Muttontown, NY 11791

Please scan to fill out online



HOLY TRANSFIGURATION RETREAT CENTER

is a ministry of the Northeast American Diocese of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

Transfiguration@neamericandiocese.org – www.transfigurationretreat.org